



Daily Report

Sub-Saharan Africa

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26 June 1992

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South Africa

In an interview carried by Johannesburg international, Constitutional Development Minister Meyer said that as neither President de Klerk's nor Nelson Mandela's schedule allowed them to meet in the near future, the ANC would submit a memorandum outlining its positions to the government, which would then reciprocate. He added that the government believed a meeting could then be arranged.

A delegation from the Goldstone Commission investigating the Boipatong massacre found rifles and ammunition on rented premises occupied by some 40 former members of the Koevet counterinsurgency unit which operated in pre-independence Namibia, SAPA reported. The commission's inquiry into the massacre was later told by a guard at the mine on which premises occupied by the Koevet unit were located that he had been told by a member of the unit that it had taken part in the Boipatong shootings.

In related developments, President de Klerk announced that government workers will be given time off to attend the funeral of the massacre victims on 29 June, while the ANC issued a call for a "national day of mourning" on that day.

Angola

Luanda radio reported that the leadership of the the Joint Political and Military Commission held "lengthy discussions" on three or four major points. While the chief government representative, General Franca Ndalu, declined to say what issues were discussed, UNITA representative Salupeto Pena, said they included "the government's attempt against Jonas Savimbi's life." In an interview with Lisbon TV, however, Deputy Information Minister da Conceicao said a man, whom he acknowledged had worked for Angolan security, was falsely claiming that the government had plotted to assassinate Savimbi.

Burkina Faso

In a news conference carried by Ouagadougou radio, newly appointed Prime Minister Ouedrago held a news conference during which he discussed the composition of his government and its economic, social, and foreign policy.

Senegal's Ka Views South Africa's Entry to OAU*AB2506133092 Libreville Africa No 1 in French
1830 GMT 23 Jun 92*

[Excerpt] South Africa is one the topics examined by OAU foreign ministers who began meeting in Dakar, Senegal, on 22 June. This 56th session of the OAU foreign ministers' conference, which is preparing the forthcoming OAU summit, is being chaired by Senegalese Foreign Minister Djibo Ka. Well, how does he see the future of South Africa at a time when South Africa's admission to the OAU is being discussed? Let us listen to him:

[Begin recording] I believe that the international community will not accept this yet, and neither will African states. Thanks to Africa, the international community, and the struggle of liberation movements and democratic forces, we have reached a point of no return in the demolition of apartheid and the evolution toward yet another democratic and nonracial society. We have confidence in the sagacity and wisdom of the statesmen of our continent, who, within a few days, will be meeting here in Dakar. I am convinced that their call will be heeded so that is never any retreat again. Any such movement would be going against history itself. I therefore believe that we must be optimistic but extremely vigilant. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Namibia's Gurirab Urges UN Force in South Africa*MB2506194892 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1937 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Text] Windhoek June 25 SAPA—Namibian Foreign Affairs Minister Theo-Ben Gurirab on Thursday [25 June] called for an United Nations debate on the Boipatong massacre and for an UN monitoring or peace-keeping force to be sent to South Africa.

Speaking to NAMBC [Namibian Broadcasting Corporation] TV news from Dakar, Senegal, Mr. Gurirab joined a call for an immediate meeting of the UN Security Council. He also condemned the South African Government for the massacre.

He called specifically for the UN Security Council to send a fact-finding mission to South Africa to report on the violence and to consider sending in UN monitors or peace-keepers.

Mr. Gurirab is attending the Organisation of African Unity foreign ministers meeting prior to the OAU summit next week.

Controversy Over Somali Delegation to Meeting*EA2506210292 Mogadishu Radio Mogadishu
in Somali 1700 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Text] A spokesman for the Ministry of Information and SONNA has dismissed as utter lies a news item carried by the BBC Somali service on 24 June, which said that a representative from the Ali Mahdi faction had been allowed to occupy the Somali seat at the OAU meeting in Dakar.

The Ministry of Information statement says that, as has been said earlier, the Somali service of the BBC is in the hands of the remnants of Siad Barre's supporters and the Manifesto Group, and therefore it is not in the interest of this group to see that Somalis live in peace. Somalis are not surprised to hear news items from this service which have no basis whatsoever in truth. The latest lie from that radio is this baseless report regarding the representation of Somalia at the OAU.

SONNA calls on the British Government and in particular the department which deals with the BBC to stop its radio from misinforming the public, since such misinformation is likely to embarrass the British Government and anger British taxpayers. The SONNA statement finally cautioned Somali listeners to be careful and weigh news from the BBC service before jumping to conclusions.

[Dakar PANA in English at 1531 GMT on 25 June carries the following Dakar-dated report events at the OAU meeting: "OAU foreign ministers met informally with a five-man delegation of Somalia's opposition coalition in Dakar Thursday on the latter's proposal to end the country's civil war, hold a conference of national reconciliation and reconstruct the country, OAU Assistant Secretary General Ahmed Haggag told a news conference. The group, led by Awad Ahmed Ashareh and representing a coalition of 16 political movements, asked the OAU to occupy the Somali seat at the OAU Council of Ministers meeting which entered its fourth day Thursday.

["OAU director of information, Ibrahim Daggash, however said the Council had turned down the request. Instead, Daggash said, the Council had decided that the interim government of Ali Mahdi should represent Somalia in the Council based on the precedent that it was accepted in Abuja last year and it was not challenged.]

["Certain Council members balked at a meeting with the Bahr Dar group, saying it would open the door for others to claim the seats of legally constituted governments in future Council meetings. But, Daggash said, the Council had sanctioned the unofficial meeting because it would provide ministers with more information when they discussed ways of ending the Somali civil war later in the day. The Council would later discuss the OAU secretary general's proposals for an OAU mechanism to prevent, manage and resolve African conflicts."]

[Also, Paris AFP in English at 1738 GMT on 25 June in a Dakar-dated item by David Chazan reports: "A group of Somalis made an impassioned plea to African foreign ministers here Thursday for the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) to intervene to avoid bloodshed in Somalia. Ministers fought back tears as they heard the emotional account of war-devastated Somalia, described

by the Red Cross as 'the world's greatest tragedy today.'" AFP adds: "Somalia's divisions have been highlighted by the arrival here of two delegations, one from the interim government led by President Ali Mahdi Mohamed who controls only about a quarter of the capital Mogadishu, and another representing 11 factions which last month agreed on a truce to allow desperately-needed food and medicine to be sent to starving civilians. At the last OAU ministerial meeting in Addis Ababa, rival Somali delegates came to blows. The OAU has accredited the governmental delegation in what deputy secretary-general Ahmed Haggag said was a "procedural" decision, though he noted that Ali Mahdi's leadership was ratified by a multi-party conference in Djibouti last year. But the other group was allowed to address the ministers in an informal closed-door session Thursday.

["The group's spokesman, Awad Ashareh, told AFP he had urged the OAU to take immediate steps to bring

food and medicine to Somalia and to help organise a national reconciliation conference within three months. Echoing a view expressed by the United Nations special envoy to Somalia Mohamed Sahnoun and endorsed by the International Committee of the Red Cross, Awad said only the arrival of massive food aid could halt the carnage." The report adds: "'We must flood the country with food,' Awad said. 'The first time it will be looted, the second time too, but then the looters will have no-one to sell it to, and we can start trying to disarm them. We will try to buy their guns.' Awad said he hoped to open talks here with Ali Mahdi's representative, Abdullahi Sheikh Ismail, who says that only his delegation is legitimate. 'The time for accusations, claims and counter-claims is over,' Awad said. 'We must find a peaceful solution and reunite our country. Everyone knows our suffering country has no government.' In a separate interview, Abdullahi said he was also willing to begin a dialogue with the others."]

Chad**Radio Reports on Government-MDD Accord**

AB260613009? Ndjamenia Radiodiffusion Nationale
Tchadienne in French 0530 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Text] The protocol agreement signed between the Chadian Government and the Movement for Democracy and Development [MDD] is aimed at the restoration of a climate of peace. So, reporter Lawidra Salmon Ngatar, what are the details of this accord?

[Ngatar] Indeed, this accord provides for an end to all military activities between the Chadian National Army [ANT] and the Western Armed Forces [FAO], and for an end to all support to any force that is hostile to either of the two parties. The accord also provides for the immediate release, after verification by a joint commission, of all persons arrested at the war front or elsewhere and detained because of their membership in the MDD; and the encampment of FAO members at (?Baga Sola) in the Lake Chad region within two months, in order to register them and later transfer them to various ANT units. The state will be in charge of feeding and accommodating MDD members during their encampment.

The accord also provides that FAO members will be taken into consideration during the reorganization of the Army, under the same conditions as those for all other soldiers and security forces. Their years of service and experience will be taken into account.

The Libreville accord also provides for the free movement of persons and goods throughout the national territory, the participation of MDD officials in the management of public affairs, the diligent pursuit of the

transition to a multiparty democracy by guaranteeing fundamental freedom, and the need to support the return of the refugees.

A joint commission composed of an equal number of members from both sides will set the deadline and assess the implementation of the present accord. In the event one side fails to implement the present accord, the other side can call for the arbitration of the president of the Republic of Gabon. The present protocol becomes effective as of the date it will be signed [words indistinct] 1992.

Deby Interview

AB2606120592 Ndjamenia Radiodiffusion Nationale
Tchadienne in French 0530 GMT 26 Jun 92

["Text" of interview with President Idriss Deby by unidentified reporter in Ndjamenia on 26 June—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr. President, what comments can you make about the agreement just signed in Libreville between your government and the MDD?

[Deby] The agreement just signed in Libreville between the MDD and the Chadian Government is [words indistinct]. The signing of that accord comes during the ongoing democratic process in Chad and as you are aware the democratic process goes hand in hand with the need for peace. Therefore, I am sincerely happy with the signing of this accord.

[Reporter] After the signing of this accord, do you believe other opposition movements will follow the MDD, because [passage indistinct]?

[Deby] You know, achieving peace is not an easy task after 30 years (?of civil war). But one must admit that during the past one and a half years, we have been making great efforts aimed at restoring calm. Agreements have been signed with other (?parties). [passage indistinct]

Djibouti

Rebels, Moderate Parties Form United Front

AB2606093592 Paris AFP in English 1543 GMT
25 Jun 92

[Text] Paris, June 25 (AFP)—Djibouti rebels and moderate opposition parties have formed a united front to bring about "a democratic transition" in their Horn of Africa nation, they announced in a statement here Thursday. The Front for the Restoration of Unity and Democracy (FRUD), active in north Djibouti since last November, joined seven other movements in calling for "a transition government with an opposition prime minister".

After a five-day conference in Paris, they also demanded that President Hassan Gouled Aptidon free all political prisoners and "open negotiations with the armed front on neutral territory to reach agreement on peace and security".

FRUD representative Ahmed Dini dismissed an amnesty declared by the government Tuesday [23 June] as a mere "gesture".

Prime Minister Barkat Gourad Hamidou has said the amnesty clears those who took up arms against the Djibouti Army, but not political leaders charged with other offences.

The FRUD spokesman in Djibouti, Abbate Edo Adou, has been in prison since April.

In Djibouti, the amnesty was narrowly ratified Thursday in a parliamentary committee, but an opposition bid to have it amended to cover all political offences since independence in June 1977 was rejected by six votes to five.

The government this week also approved a draft new constitution opening the way to multi-party politics.

The prime minister hinted, however, that Gouled Aptidon could pardon political offenders, including former Transport Minister Aden Roble Awalle, in exile in France, who was sentenced to death in 1982 for coup plotting.

FRUD, a largely Afar movement, launched its insurrection last year in a bid to end domination of the country by the Issa people. The guerrillas surrounded the northern towns of Obock and Tadjoura.

France, which has its main Red Sea naval base in Djibouti, has been mediating a settlement.

Attending the meeting in Paris was another former minister Mohamed Djama Elabe who stressed for his Movement for Reconciliation and Peace (MRP) that the opposition wanted a political settlement. Dini warned that failure to bring one about would lead to "disintegration" as in neighbouring, war-torn Somalia.

Also in Paris were the Democratic Front (FD), the Djibouti National Movement (MND), the Movement for Salvation and Reconstruction (MSR), the Djibouti National Party (PND), the Democratic Djibouti Union

(UDD), the Parliamentary Opposition (OP) and, as an observer, the national ADDHL [expansion unknown] human rights association.

Ethiopia

International Commission To Mediate Dispute

EA2506195092 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia
Network in Amharic 1700 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] An international commission to seek peaceful solutions to the current problems in Ethiopia has been set up. The members of this commission, established in accordance with an agreement reached between the president of the Transitional Government of Ethiopia and the leaders of the Oromo Liberation Front [OLF], are the ambassadors of Canada, Sweden, the United Kingdom, and the United States, as well as the representatives of the UN Development Program and the EC in Ethiopia.

The commission has met and held talks with President Meles Zenawi. It will travel to Harer this evening to meet and hold talks with the OLF secretary general to discuss ways of finding a peaceful solution to the problems of the two parties.

The commission has expressed its belief that the current situation will not lead to bloodshed and that as a result, Ethiopia will not lose its peaceful status internationally. The commission has also called on the armed forces of both parties to refrain from any conflict at this decisive moment.

OLF Landmine Kills 6; Other Incidents Noted

EA2506192092 Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia
Network in Amharic 0930 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Report by Alem Sewasye]

[Excerpts] According to ENA, six people have been killed and 11 others injured by landmines planted by the Oromo Liberation Front [OLF]. According to a statement by the office of the Oromo People's Democratic Movement, the accident occurred while the Land Rover public vehicle in which the victims were traveling, which was going from Harer to Komboltcha, hit landmines planted by the OLF. [passage omitted].

Furthermore, the OLF also burned its own property with hand grenades before leaving Ambo on 21 June. [passage omitted]

The OLF also attempted to destroy Jijiga town's power station and gasoline stations on 23 June, but the attempt was foiled by the Transitional Government's defense forces.

According to Mr. Kasa Teclé Berhane, deputy commander of the Transitional Government's eastern zone defense force, four armed OLF men were found trying to throw hand grenades at the town's power station compound and were caught red-handed by the Transitional Government's defense forces guarding the compound. He also noted that other armed OLF men who were at the OLF office tried to burn down the gasoline station in the former 20th Army Division compound using hand grenades and a rocket launcher. During this incident, Mr Kasa said, four of the armed OLF men who opened fire were killed, 28 were captured, and three fled. [passage omitted]

[Addis Ababa Voice of Ethiopia Network in Amharic at 1700 GMT on 24 June also reported: "The remains of peaceful civilians kidnapped by the OLF from various areas in Yubdo District, Gimbi Province of Welega Region, who were brutally murdered, burned and thrown into a pit, were retrieved and reburied in a church in the area on 20 June." The report adds: "These massacres, which are similar to those committed at Bedeno, were not only a simple massacre of the people there; their bodies were also burned to mask the smell. This was stated by an eyewitness, Mr. Waktole Osana, who stated that there were burned clothes with the retrieved remains. He also said that a former OLF soldier has confirmed all this. In addition, residents of Haru who are still searching for some of their family members who disappeared in unknown circumstances, told a team of visiting journalists that they still feared for their lives. They asked the Transitional Government to pay attention to their plight."]

Kenya

Foreign Minister Welcomes Cohen Remarks

EA2506221692 Nairobi Kenya Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1000 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] The United States has criticized opposition calls for a boycott of the voter registration exercise in Kenya, saying that it is ill-advised. Appearing before the House of Representatives Subcommittee on Africa, U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr. Herman Cohen, noted that Kenyans who failed to register will lose any say in the choice of their leaders in the event of free and fair elections.

According to an official statement from the U.S. Information Service in Nairobi, the USA commended Kenya for making positive progress in the process of democratization. Mr. Cohen assured the Government of Kenya that his country will continue to work with other donors

and seek additional resources for food and non-food relief for those suffering from drought.

[Nairobi KNA in English at 1345 GMT on 25 June then reports in a Nairobi-dated item: "The foreign affairs minister, Mr Wilson Ndolo Ayah, today said the Kenya Government welcomes the last observations made by the U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, Mr Herman Cohen, who has reiterated the U.S. Government's continued assistance towards Kenya's drought-stricken areas and in assisting the tens of thousands of refugees from neighbouring countries who have sought solace on Kenyan soil.

["He went on to say that the U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs made the encouraging pledges while appearing before the House of Representatives sub-committee on Africa, according to available accounts, and the Kenya Ministry of Foreign Affairs would like to assure the U.S. State Department that the observations have been noted with appreciation.

["The statement went on: 'It is in particular a point of note that Mr Cohen expressed the U.S. Government's displeasure at the threatened boycott of the on-going registration of voters by a number of the emergent Kenyan opposition parties. Indeed, as the American official pointed out, many Kenyans, who might fail to register as voters in the forthcoming multi-party polls, will lose any say in the choice of their leaders.

["The ruling party, KANU [Kenya African National Union] and the government have already and often enough assured the nation and the world that the elections will be flawlessly democratic, free and fair and I avail myself of this opportunity of reiterating the assurance and commitment in my dual capacity as foreign minister and national chairman of the ruling party.

["With regard to Mr Cohen's reported observations on Kenya's human rights record, the U.S. Government will hopefully by now have taken note of the fact that, in his wisdom, His Excellency President Moi on Tuesday [23 June] ordered the release from incarceration of five political prisoners. It should also be noted that the high court, sitting in Nairobi, yesterday [24 June] freed four Kenyans who had been arraigned on treason charges. The trial of four others is still pending and the subject is subjudice. Mr Cohen's reported references to the ongoing registration of voters exercise will hopefully be cross-checked and updated with the electoral commission by the Nairobi-based U.S. Embassy. It will suffice for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to point out that the registration is going on very well indeed and that complaints with regard to isolated clerical and other human errors were being attended to promptly at the various registration centres."]

ANC, Government To Exchange Memos Before Talks

*MB2606135192 Johannesburg Radio RSA in English
1100 GMT 26 Jun 92*

[Interview with Constitutional Development Minister Roelf Meyer by Ken Daniels on the "Africa South" program; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Meyer] We basically agreed yesterday that the ANC would present the government today with a memorandum on their current position, or on their position as far as the current impasse is concerned, whereafter we will consider it and present them with our memorandum next week.

[Daniels] And as far as official talks, the so-called summit between ANC and the government, which seem to be postponed for a while now, what's the position there?

[Meyer] Well, there's no decision on that yet. We both agreed yesterday that in view of the fact that the leaders could not meet this afternoon, as was suggested by the ANC, and in view of the fact that Mr. Mandela is leaving the country tomorrow, there would be no reason for us actually to try and finalise such a meeting at this stage, and for that reason we have decided to do it the other way, and to present each other with memoranda and then, after we have presented our memorandum, the ANC will probably give us an indication of their position again, whereafter we believe a meeting can be arranged. It would still be our suggestion that we should have a fundamental discussion on the different points of view, and for that purpose we should actually set aside two days.

[Daniels] Does the government have any plans for dealing with the violence in the country?

[Meyer] Well, the violence is obviously the main obstacle at the moment, also on the way toward negotiations, and on account of our own concern, and the concern of other parties in this regard, we believe also that we should focus actually our discussion in the first instance on the whole problem of violence, and the best way would be to find a mutually agreed basis on which we can move forward in dealing with the problem. Violence is very much related to the political conflict, and for that reason it would be advisable for us as politicians and political leaders to make our own contribution and give, actually, direction on how to resolve the problem.

[Daniels] Mr. Meyer, the latest postponement of the talks, it might be seen in some circles as being another attempt to delay constitutional talks. How would you respond to that?

[Meyer] Well, it is definitely not a delay, it's a question of an agreement. [ANC Secretary General] Mr. Ramaphosa suggested yesterday that we try and meet this afternoon, which was not possible on account of the state president's program this afternoon, whereafter he indicated that Mr. Mandela is leaving the country tomorrow, which meant that there was no chance for us to arrange a meeting at this stage, whereupon we decided that it would be better to exchange these

memoranda, so that we can have a clear picture on both sides of where we stand, what our different views are, and whereupon we can get on with the talks. So I think in a certain way, this is a better procedure. It's not a question of delaying it, it's a question of dealing with it in a more fundamental and proper way, through which we can probably make sure that we have a clear picture of our viewpoints, and then we can look at how we can resolve them. [end recording]

Goldstone Commission Investigating Massacre

Rifles Found

*MB2506153892 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1519 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[By Ramokoena Matlala]

[Text] Pretoria June 25 SAPA—Trunks containing R1 rifles and ammunition were discovered at the Greenside Collieries mine near Witbank on Wednesday [24 June] during a visit by a delegation from the Goldstone Commission, it was disclosed on Thursday.

The investigating officer for the commission, Lt-Col Henk Heslinga, told a preliminary hearing in Pretoria that following information received by the commission there was a group of people staying at the premises of the mine who were involved in recent acts of violence at Boipatong.

He said a delegation from the commission, including lawyers, went to investigate and in the process found a group of about 40 former Koevoet [former South-West Africa police counterinsurgency unit] members staying in a security building of the mine.

Col Heslinga said during investigations three firearms were found in the building and later, about a kilometre away at the quarters of white policemen in charge of the group were residing [as received], trunks with R1 rifles and ammunition were found.

Counsel for the African National Congress [ANC], Mr. Gys Rautenbach, earlier told the commission that certain information became available to the ANC that there were suspicious people at the premises of the mine, who were armed, carried radios, spoke a foreign language and were kept separately from mine workers.

Mr. Rautenbach said as far as the violence in Boipatong was concerned, the ANC was not alleging the group was responsible, but the organisation received information citing members of the group as having been involved [in] the violence at the Vaal Triangle township.

"That is why we say we are concerned and the matter should be investigated so that proper findings could be made," Mr. Rautenbach said.

He also said a delegation of the ANC which went to the mine to investigate the matter was threatened by members of the former Koevoet group.

Counsel for the minister of law and order, the South African Police [SAP] and employees of the SAP, Mr. Phillip Hattingh, denied that members of the group, who he conceded were former members of Koevoet, were involved in acts of violence at Boipatong.

Mr. Hattingh said the group was not made up of permanent policemen, but were in the employment of the police and were used as a unit to combat crimes such as stock theft and theft of telephone cables in the countryside.

He said the unit was based in Rooiberg, near Thabazimbi, and the base was not a secret place as it had already appeared on a television programme.

Mr. Hattingh said the members were South African citizens and they had appointment cards showing they were employed by the SAP.

The hearing continues on Friday.

Officer Withdraws

MB2606112192 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network in English 0500 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Text] The Goldstone Commission's investigating officer, Lieutenant Colonel Henk Heslinga, has withdrawn from the inquiry into allegations of police complicity in the Boipatong massacre.

The commission is investigating a police unit near Witbank at which former members of the Koevoet [former South-West African police counterinsurgency unit] unit are stationed.

Col. Heslinga said he was withdrawing because of his former links with Koevoet. He denied that policemen stationed at the unit had refused to identify themselves, and confirmed that there were 40 former Koevoet members on the premises.

Koevoet Unit Said Involved

MB2606110092 Johannesburg SABA in English 1048 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Text] Pretoria June 26 SABA—A witness at the Goldstone Commission's preliminary inquiry into the Boipatong massacre said on Friday that an alleged former member of the SAP's [South African Police] Koevoet [former South-West African police counterinsurgency unit] unit described to him how the unit had taken part in the shootings at the Vaal Triangle township.

Mr Ace Mngomezulu, a security guard at Greenside Collieries mine near Witbank, said a man he used to play fingerboard games with told him members of the

Koevoet unit, housed at the mine, went to Boipatong on June 17 where people were shot.

According to Mr Mngomezulu, the man said he did not take part in the shooting, but looked after the minibus they had travelled in.

The former Koevoet member said after the shooting he was told he would have to be taken away because he did not take part in the action, Mr Mngomezulu said.

The man said that, according to the unit's rules, he had to be killed because he had not taken part in the shootings, and he asked the security guard to inform officials of the National Union of Mineworkers and the ANC [African National Congress] about the matter.

Mr Mngomezulu also said every night since the beginning of the month, members of the group were taken away in a minibus with weapons wrapped in blankets which they sat on in the vehicle.

A representative of Goldfields, which owns the mine, Mr Peter Pauw, told the commission the company was not aware that a police unit was housed on the premises.

Mr. Pauw later told the commission the management of Greenside Collieries mine had informed him the police rented part of their premises for crime prevention.

During cross-examination, when asked if members of the unit did leave the premises in vehicles during the day, Mr. Mngomezulu said on one occasion he saw them going out in a van to buy food.

Asked if it was ever reported that members of the unit were in possession of firearms, Mr. Mngomezulu said because the group had been allowed to stay there, he had presumed its members were also allowed to carry weapons.

Mr. Mngomezulu also said he had watched television news coverage of the Boipatong massacre and while watching the broadcast he had noticed one of the unit's members touching another as if to attract his attention. All members of the unit left the room immediately after the news broadcast.

Asked if his security chief knew about the group, Mr. Mngomezulu said the chief must have known they were housed there.

The chief had also informed them the unit was involved in the Boipatong shootings, he said.

Mine Company's Statement

MB2606141492 Johannesburg SABA in English 1335 GMT 26 Jun 92

[Text] Johannesburg June 26 SABA—Although the manager of Gold Fields' Greenside Colliery had made an

arrangement to accommodate some police for crime fighting purposes, Gold Fields itself was not aware police were staying at the site.

The company was responding to reports that arms were found at the mine and a number of former Koevoet [former South-West African police counterinsurgency unit] members were staying at the Colliery.

In a statement on Friday [26 June], the mining giant said:

"Until the evening of 24 June 1992, Gold Fields of South Africa and the board of Gold Fields Coal Limited, were unaware that a contingent of the South African Police was housed in the premises of Gold Fields coal's Greenside Colliery.

"The manager of Greenside Colliery and representatives of the South African Police made an arrangement, in terms of which certain members of the South African Police would occupy, for a short period, accommodation in excess of the mine's security needs while such members were busy with crime prevention activities in the area."

Plans for 29 Jun Boipatong Funeral Reported

De Klerk Press Release

MB2606071892 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2345 GMT 25 Jun 92

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by the South African Communication Service: "Press Release by the State President, Mr F. W. de Klerk"]

[Text] The tragic events at Boipatong have again underlined to our country and all its people, the devastating effect and senselessness of political violence. In recent months and years, a number of innocent men, women and children have also died in various other places in our country in the crossfire of political violence. Likewise, many security force members have simultaneously lost their lives in the battle against unrest and violence.

At an occasion such as this, it is fitting that the whole country's sympathy be extended to the family members of all the victims of violence. It is the government's sincere prayer that the atrocious events at Boipatong will finally cause all South Africans to reflect and that the almighty God, in whose hands the destiny of peoples and nations is, shall provide for a speedy end to the violence.

In this spirit, the government asks all churches and denominations to consider focusing in prayer and ministry, during services or religious gatherings on Sunday 28 June 1992, on the consolation of those who have suffered as a consequence of violence and on the necessity for reconciliation and peace.

In view of the forthcoming funeral of victims of the Boipatong murders, the government has decided to allow employees in its service who wish to attend, the opportunity to do so. The same measure will apply to other, related mourning services.

A call is made on employers in the private sector to consider a similar arrangement. Released by the state president's office Pretoria 25 June 1992

ANC Press Release

MB2606093792 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2328 GMT 25 Jun 92

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by the African National Congress, ANC: "Press Release on the 29 June—National Day of Mourning"]

[Text] On Monday 29 June the victims of the violence in Boipatong will be buried. The whole country has been shaken to its foundations by the savage massacre. It is a time to bury the dead with dignity. It is a time to say: Not one more death! It is a time for all to commit themselves to move rapidly towards democracy, peace and justice.

The day has been declared a national day of mourning. The Vaal has called for a local stayaway in that area in tribute to the tragic loss the community has suffered. However, there has been no call for a national stayaway.

In keeping with the spirit of the day, locally organised prayers, lunch time commemoration services, demonstrations, etc. will take place throughout the country. We call on business to respect the day of mourning, and discuss with workers any planned actions.

We call on the international community to observe this important day by, amongst other things, not handling any South African goods or carriers. We appeal to all our people to remain calm, and ensure that the dead are buried in a disciplined and dignified manner. We expect Mr De Klerk to ensure that the police behave likewise. Issued jointly by the headquarters of COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions], the SACP [South African Communist Party] and the ANC 25 June 1992

Employers Union Comments

MB2506155792 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1507 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Johannesburg June 25 SAPA—The South African Employers' Consultative Committee on Labour Affairs [SACCOLA] has opposed any call for stayaway action next Monday, June 29.

In a statement released on Thursday, the employers' forum said its affiliated members would have to consider how they and their employees could commemorate the massacre of some 40 people in Boipatong township last week.

The African National Congress [ANC] has called for a day of national mourning next Monday for the victims of the alleged Inkatha hostel dwellers' initiated attack on the Township residents.

SACCOLA said it "lends its voice to others who have appealed to all parties to commemorate the day in a dignified manner in order to support the need for peace and reconciliation".

SACCOLA while extending its sympathy to the family and friends of the victims of the massacre, urged all political leaders to quickly resume the negotiations process.

The ANC called off bi-lateral and Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] negotiations with the government following the Boipatong massacre.

SACCOLA would be meeting with the Congress of South African Trade Unions in the next few days to review the economic and political situation specifically with regard to the country's largest labour federation's planned mass action, the statement said.

Business Group Reacts

*MB2606133092 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1113 GMT 26 Jun 92*

[Text] Johannesburg June 26 SAPA—The Steel and Engineering Industries Federation of SA [South Africa] (SEIFSA) says companies should respect the African National Congress' [ANC] call for Monday to be declared a day of mourning to mark the funeral of the Boipatong victims.

In a statement on Friday, SEIFSA—representing employers in steel and engineering industries—called on companies to accommodate "any reasonable request from workers to mark the occasion in an appropriate manner".

"SEIFSA does not however support the call from some trade unions for a stayaway or for factories to close on this day."

While the federation believed police and authorities should make every effort to bring the Boipatong killers to book, it also cautioned against "precipitous calls for action before the full facts of the matter have been objectively established".

"We are also of the view that no party should attempt to use this tragedy as a means of attempting to gain political advantage or in any way to impede the process towards a peaceful negotiated political settlement."

SEIFSA said it was appalled by the massacre and condemned "these and other acts of savagery in the strongest possible terms".

The federation stated it fully supported the National Peace Committee's call for the Goldstone Commission to urgently establish the truth of the Boipatong carnage.

Police Raid Nactu Secretary General's Home

*MB2506182292 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1805 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Text] Johannesburg June 25 SAPA—The Dobsonville home of National Council of Trade Unions [Nactu] General Secretary Cunningham Ngcukana was raided by police on Thursday [25 June], the SAP [South African Police] has confirmed.

According to an earlier statement by Nactu, the country's second largest trade union federation, policemen arrived at Mr. Ngcukana's home on Thursday morning, saying they were acting on information that there was an arms cache in Mr. Ngcukana's house.

The house and backrooms were ransacked for two hours while the residents of the house were ordered outside, Nactu claimed.

Police spokesman Capt G Mariemuthoo said police had carried out the raid acting on information received.

"Our job is to maintain law and order, and if anybody feels he has been harassed he is free to lay a complaint, and we will investigate," Capt Mariemuthoo said.

Survey Finds Majority Committed to Shared Rule

*MB2506195292 Johannesburg SABC TV 1 Network
in English 1800 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Text] While the ANC [African National Congress] and the government are at loggerheads, a survey has found that the majority of South Africans are committed to shared rule.

The survey conducted by the Markinor research group shows most blacks and whites favor a government in which power is shared by all population groups, and in which no one group dominates another. The proportion of whites favoring shared rule has risen by 14 percent in a year. The number of blacks favoring power sharing remains constant at 84 percent.

Among whites, 78 percent of English speakers were in favor of power sharing, whereas only 57 percent of Afrikaans speakers supported power sharing. About 12 percent of blacks want all power in black hands and this is three percent higher than last year. Nearly a third of whites, however, would prefer whites to have a greater say in government than other groups.

Last year this figure was 44 percent, and more people in Natal and the Cape want a balance of power than in the Transvaal and the Orange Free State.

Official Warns Against SADF Township Pullout

*MB2506154892 Umtata Capital Radio in English
1400 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Text] A senior [South African] Defence Force [SADF] official has warned that the situation in South Africa's townships will escalate if the SADF is withdrawn from

these areas. The Defense Force's strategy director, Brigadier George Craig, told a Security in '92 conference at Pretoria University today that SADF troops in the townships should be withdrawn only when the cycle of violence in South Africa is broken. Craig also denied the SADF is strongly politicized. He says there is no hate between SADF personnel and ANC [African National Congress] officials since the ANC's armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe [Spear of the Nation] and the Defense Force did not fight in a bush war.

Six Aircraft To Go to Angola for Elections

MB2506192892 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1911 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] Pretoria June 25 SAPA—Six South African Air Force planes will be sent to Angola during that country's electoral process culminating on September 29-30, Foreign Affairs Minister Pik Botha disclosed on Thursday [25 June].

The aircraft are four Puma helicopters and two fixed-wing Caravan light aircraft.

"The aircraft will be used to transport the Angolan National Electoral Commission and United Nations Angola Verification Mission personnel during the electoral process in the execution of their duties to ensure free and fair elections," Mr Botha said in a statement.

The aircraft and their crews will render logistical support in Angola from July 1 until October 15.

Mr Botha said the decision to supply the aircraft had been taken in view of the improved relations between South Africa and Angola, and the fact that South Africa had a vested interest in stability in southern Africa.

Last week a South African Army engineer team returned to South Africa after having trained a group of Angolan soldiers in mine clearing techniques.

Some parts of Angola are still inaccessible because of uncleared minefields laid by the different warring parties during civil war in Angola which was ended by a cease-fire some two years ago.

According to the inspector-general of Angola's Army engineers, Maj-Gen Helder Cruz, hundreds of thousands of mines still need to be cleared over the next two decades.

Accord With Zambia on Drought Relief Transport

MB2606093992 Johannesburg SAPA in English
2316 GMT 25 Jun 92

[SAPA PR Wire Service issued by the South African Communication Service: "Press Statement by the minister of transport and of posts and telecommunications of the Republic of South Africa, Dr P. J. Welgemoed on the occasion of the signing of the memorandum of

understanding on the transportation by road of commodities related to drought relief between South Africa and Zambia in Lusaka on 26 June 1992"]

[Text] The Governments of the Republic of South Africa and the Republic of Zimbabwe have today concluded a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the transportation by road of commodities related to drought relief which enters into force with immediate effect.

The conclusion of the MOU represents a joint response by the two governments to the severe crisis caused by the drought which has ravaged the southern African region and requires immediate and effective action.

In terms of the MOU, the authorities of both parties will issue permits to each other's carriers for the transportation of drought relief commodities without requiring compliance with any further formalities except the production of a valid permit issued by the authorities of the other party. The aim is to reduce red tape to a minimum and to facilitate the speedy and effective transportation of the drought relief to Zambia.

The MOU has been drafted with the express purpose of being flexible and adaptable to changing circumstances; at present, it only regulates the cross-border transportation of maize, wheat and rice intended as drought relief. Provision is, however, expressly made for the MOU to be extended to cover other drought relief commodities, should the need be identified in practice.

The conclusion of the MOU is viewed as merely the first phase in the development of road transport relations between South Africa and Zambia. The Zambian Government has already indicated its willingness to enter into a long-term agreement with South Africa to facilitate road transportation in general between the two countries.

Accordingly, the MOU already addresses a number of ancillary issues of importance to the road transportation industry by:

(a) Recognizing that humanitarian considerations require both

parties to take all steps necessary to facilitate the movement of transit traffic involved in the provision of drought relief over the territories of both parties.

(b) By identifying a need for road transportation policies in both

countries to be harmonized, eg. In respect of permissible

axle-mass loads. Issued by: Elsa Kruger, ministerial liaison officer tel (021) 45-7260 or (012) 28-4939 26 June 1992

26 Jun Press Review on Current Events, Issues
MB2606142692

[Editorial Report]

THE CITIZEN

Boipatong ANC Excuse To 'Impose Will'—Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 25 June in its page 6 editorial says "Boipatong should not be a reason to bring this country to a virtual standstill. Shame on the ANC [African National Congress]." Boipatong is also not a cause for reimposing the sports moratorium. "With apartheid laws gone and the country in transition to a new South Africa, the ANC has decided to impose its will, if it can. Do you wonder we say shame on the ANC? It is tearing this country apart at a time when negotiation, reconciliation and compromise are all that can save the country from disaster."

THE STAR

Sports Boycott Cannot Be Turned 'On and Off'—Even though the ANC's call to reimpose the sports boycott is "understandable," Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 26 June in a page 14 editorial warns that "sporting sanctions are not something that can be turned on and off like a tap." Elaborate arrangements have to be made. "A better approach than cancellation would be to allow existing arrangements to go ahead and impose a time limit of, say, six months for reviewing political progress towards peace. If matters have not improved by then, there would be better grounds for reimposing a moratorium on sporting contacts."

BUSINESS DAY

No Clear Victory in Diamant By-Election—The Diamant byelection in Kimberley, "produced a disappointingly vague pointer to the outcome of bigger election battles ahead," states Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 26 June in a page 10 editorial. "If the NP's [National Party] 7,000 Diamant votes constitute a conservative shot across the ANC's bow, the 20,000 who voted against the NP or abstained are a warning for government. Diamant gave no clear victory, and therefore no clear indication."

SOWETAN

Hysteria About ANC's Codesa Withdrawal 'Sickening'— "The hysteria and hypocrisy from the conservative media and reactionary whites about the ANC's withdrawal from Codesa [Convention for a Democratic South Africa] is quite sickening," declares Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 26 June in a page 10 editorial. "Perhaps that is just as well because the negotiations were making us forget that we are South Africans. We forget that white and black South Africans will behave in their odious ways—whites in the main being racist, whining, superior and contemptuous of others; blacks, whining, ineffectual and easily manipulated. There is a sense of helpless anger about the way some whites treat the tragedy of Boipatong." "The ANC cannot go on

negotiating with a party whose members are ruthlessly and callously subverting what is ostensibly being negotiated. It is morally wrong and politically destructive. There cannot be plainer evidence of terror and hypocrisy."

THE WEEKLY MAIL

De Klerk, Security Forces 'Hated, Distrusted'—Johannesburg THE WEEKLY MAIL in English for 26 June-2 July in its page 16 editorial says: "The single most important event in this eventful week occurred when President F.W. de Klerk was unable to get out of his car in massacre-hit Boipatong last Saturday [20 June] because of the anger of the crowd that met him. De Klerk could only have gone into the area because he believed people were accepting the government line that the African National Congress' mass action campaign was to blame for the violence. This myth must have been shattered once and for all as he sat nervously in the car seeing the evidence that he and his security forces are hated and distrusted by a large proportion of communities such as this one." The editorial also notes that the government needs to realize the ANC and its alliance partners "are not posturing: they are serious about mass action and, if anything, the COSATU leadership is even more serious than the ANC." De Klerk "needs to be forced into realising that he has to make concessions serious enough to re-establish his goodwill."

NEW NATION

ANC Talks Withdrawal To Save Lives in Black Townships—"The ANC's withdrawal from negotiations, albeit conditionally, has probably saved scores of lives in the black townships," proclaims a page 16 editorial in Johannesburg NEW NATION in English for 26 June-2 July. "Highly-placed sources in the ANC say the organisation's intelligence wing had gathered information on impending country-wide violence to be instigated by forces in the government's security establishment, aimed to coincide with the ANC's June deadline for the establishment of an interim government. The violence was apparently aimed at creating a crisis within the ANC, to draw the attention of the leadership away from the deadline and to discourage people from participating in mass action." "It has been suggested that National Party leader F.W. de Klerk's ill-fated visit to Boipatong after last week's massacre, fitted this particular scenario. ANC intelligence was placed in the difficult position of persuading the leadership to confront the government on its secret agenda because they had no concrete evidence. We would probably never know if some elements in the security forces had actually planned to execute this plan."

TRANSVALER

De Klerk's Speedy Return 'Sensible' Decision—Johannesburg TRANSVALER in Afrikaans on 23 June says in a page 6 editorial: "The state president's visit this week to Spain was, to put it mildly, inappropriate. It is a

relief, therefore, that he will be back as early as tomorrow. In these days Mr. de Klerk must be home to keep his hand on the wheel while the South African ship navigates a political storm. The statesmanship for which he has gained great fame has seldom been as badly needed as now." The paper concludes: "Serious questions about all those involved in the tragedy at Boipatong, which brought about the crisis, have to be answered with the greatest urgency and honesty. Mr. de Klerk's speedy return is therefore a sensible decision, because some of the questions have to be answered by the government."

ANC Gambling With Credibility—A second editorial on the same page states: "South Africa's sportsmen are already so used to being used as a political football that they will not be surprised if the Olympic Games and international tours are again pulled out from under their feet. That the ANC is already thinking along these lines—apparently led by the nose by communist strategists—was already becoming evident last week. Now they are openly threatening to wreck South Africa's participation in international sport, even though unity has been achieved in just about every sport discipline and millions of rands have been plowed into the development of sport among the less privileged." "They are gambling with their credibility and integrity, whatever that is worth, if they do fail to honor even the principles of sport."

*** Afrikaans Foundation: Objectives, Projects**

92AF0878B Johannesburg BEELD in Afrikaans
12 May 92 p 11

[Report on interview with spokespersons of the Foundation for Afrikaans: "Foundation for Afrikaans: From Where and Whereto?"; place, date not given]

[Text] The Foundation for Afrikaans is taking on a comprehensive campaign to promote Afrikaans nationwide, beyond all political borders and among all South Africans. Although the official announcement was made only yesterday, that idea originated already a year or so ago. Much work already has been done behind the scene. But where is the Foundation coming from and what does it want to achieve for Afrikaans? Spokespersons of the Foundation for Afrikaans clarified some questions.

How and where did the Foundation for Afrikaans originate?

The idea was first mentioned at a symposium of Afrikaans media representatives given on 3 May last year under the sponsorship of the South African Academy for Science and Art. There Mr. Tom Vosloo, managing director of the National Press, expressed the need for a new, inclusive organization to promote Afrikaans as the everyday language among all the people of South Africa. Ultimately he was asked to take the necessary steps to establish such a body.

After widespread consultation, the Foundation was established during the second half of 1991 and a Council

of Trustees was appointed under the presidency of Mr. Tom de Beer, executive director of Gencor [General Mining Union Corporation]. A central staff has been appointed, headed by an executive director, Mr. Andrew Marais, chief director of public relations of the National Press. The office of the Foundation is in Cape Town.

[Question] Various other organizations exist which promote Afrikaans, such as the FAK [Federation of Afrikaner Cultural Associations] and the SA [Republic of South Africa] Academy for Science and Art. Why another one?

[Foundation spokesperson] The Foundation occupies itself with the utilitarian value of Afrikaans. With respect to the other organizations which are already in harness, our opinion is that they carry too much ideological and political baggage from the past. The Foundation has great respect for the work they have done on behalf of the language through the years and is not planning to displace them. They must continue with their important work.

We do not desire to live in discord with them. On the contrary, the basic position of the Foundation for Afrikaans is one of conciliation and helpfulness.

It still became clear, however, that the Foundation will have to start with a clean slate. Its inclusive approach requires that it must accommodate all the people of South Africa. It cannot do that if a stigma of one kind or another is attached to it. To the Foundation, the only important matter is the promotion of Afrikaans, without harming any other language or organization in the process.

There is room for a strong coordinating body which can promote Afrikaans not only in South Africa, but even abroad. President F.W. de Klerk freed the language of its straitjacket in February 1990. That provided the opportunity for an organization such as the Foundation for Afrikaans to promote the language strongly and imaginatively without constraints among all the inhabitants of South Africa. We believe that the Foundation for Afrikaans is the right organization at the right time and the right place.

[Question] Is the Foundation going to work on behalf of maintaining the official status of Afrikaans?

[Foundation] Very definitely, yes.

Fortunately we were in the position that the language development in Namibia, which actually is the most Afrikaans-speaking country in the world, could teach us a timely lesson. Afrikaans speakers who ignore that lesson do that at their own risk.

The Foundation believes it would be a sad day if Afrikaans were to lose its status. Its standpoint is that an acquired right of Afrikaans speakers should not be touched. When an official language loses that status, it

has far-reaching, probably disastrous, results for all its utilitarian functions. In a multicultural country the development of a nation and a language policy are not at all synonymous, especially when that might unleash a dangerous language struggle. The experience in countries such as Belgium and Canada has taught that a language cannot simply be thrown overboard.

One of the serious consequences of a language losing its official status is that it diminishes as a cultural language and as a language of science and intellectual life. The position of Afrikaans in school and in the university will undoubtedly suffer. It is not impossible that ultimately it will disappear both as medium of instruction and as subject of study. Afrikaans literature will be in danger of declining. As to higher language functions, it must be assumed that Afrikaans immediately would lose its spot in the government service and official activities.

A very great percentage of South Africans depend on the official protection of Afrikaans for their livelihood: teachers, writers, publishers, journalists, radio and TV people, translators, interpreters, lecturers. All those people—and many others—will be very seriously affected if Afrikaans were to lose its official status.

The discussion on a new political dispensation for South Africa made the Afrikaans speakers aware that a language struggle is imminent. It is possible that a future government will recognize only one official language, and it is improbable that it will be Afrikaans. The Foundation with its inclusive viewpoint, in any event, does not advocate that. It acknowledges the right of existence of all the other languages which are spoken in South Africa, and it does not want to put any other language at a disadvantage by promoting Afrikaans.

However, for Afrikaans much more is at stake than its official status. That status indeed can be justified only if such a language is a living language with significant numbers of people using it day after day in all the usual functions which make a modern language viable.

Such a need cannot be cultivated or filled by the state. It requires the support of millions of speakers. Precisely that—the promotion of Afrikaans among as many inhabitants of South Africa as possible—is the main endeavor of the Foundation for Afrikaans.

[Question] To what extent is the National Press involved in the Foundation for Afrikaans?

[Foundation] The National Press is involved in the Foundation together with a great number of other companies and organizations. They include Perskor and the SAUK [South African Broadcasting Corporation]. The National Press has played a leading role in the creation of the Foundation. Someone had to take the lead, and the National Press did that in the interest of all Afrikaans people and institutions whose future is at stake. It will continue to support it with the means at its disposal.

The Foundation for Afrikaans is completely independent of the National Press, however. Its activities are led by a council of trustees drawn from a broad section of South African society. It works on behalf of all South Africans who have the interests of Afrikaans at heart, and it calls on everyone to allow it to do so.

[Question] What is the financial goal of the Foundation?

[Foundation] We want to establish a strong fund from which the activities of the Foundation can be financed. It will require several million rands.

[Question] Where will the money come from?

[Foundation] We hope to collect the money by making an appeal to all South Africans sympathetic toward the matter. Collection campaigns by various newspapers, magazines, and the electronic media are being planned. Companies and other institutions are also being asked to contribute generously to the fund. Further, the fund will be supplemented by competitions and special promotions in which the public can take part.

[Question] What will the Foundation do to promote Afrikaans?

The Foundation for Afrikaans will do everything in its power to promote Afrikaans. Its main task will be to convince people, primarily the Afrikaans speakers, to use that language. When Afrikaans is spoken it will be heard by others and that can have a ripple effect.

The Foundation will continually be prepared to create points of growth in the language. It will be determined what the needs are of all speakers of all variants of Afrikaans. Ultimately such an approach excludes any question of elitism.

The Foundation for Afrikaans is completely focused on promoting the utilitarian value of Afrikaans. It wants to position Afrikaans as a friendly and helpful language in which people can communicate easily with each other. It also cherishes the ideal of utilizing Afrikaans in every possible way as a bridge-builder between people and groups.

[Question] Have any specific projects been decided on?

[Foundation] Yes, they include:

—A campaign to encourage and inspire Afrikaans speakers to use their language orally and at all times—speak, write, and read. Not because they feel obliged to do so, but because they like to do so. In that context, a comprehensive information campaign is being planned by the printed press and electronic media via pamphlets, brochures, etc. The message of Afrikaans will be carried to the far extremes of the country and even abroad.

—Education in all its aspects is high on the business list of the Foundation. Literacy programs, especially for

Afrikaans speakers, can be a strong medium in promoting Afrikaans and, simultaneously, in carrying out a broader educational task. Various people and institutions are already conducting such programs. The Foundation will try to set a standard for literacy programs in Afrikaans, to coordinate existing actions, and to give financial support.

Certain recent developments indicate that Afrikaans also needs help at the school level. It is unnecessary to stress how important it is for Afrikaans not to fail or be downplayed at the school level. The Foundation will gather expert advice as to the best ways in which it can help and will throw in its weight with anyone who tries to find a solution for the problem. Specific attention will be given to the needs of black education, immigrants and other non-Afrikaans speakers.

—Various promotions on behalf of Afrikaans are being planned, especially in the cultural area. There is increasing interest in contemporary Afrikaans music. Drama is also experiencing a revival. The Foundation would like to stimulate and promote the developments and needs created by that. It would do that in especially two ways. First by encouraging and rewarding the creation of new works on the broad Afrikaans cultural front, and second by creating the facilities to offer those. Music, song, stage, and the art of writing could all be involved in such a program. Perhaps the time is now ripe for a National Afrikaans Art Festival, similar to the annual (English) Art Festival in Grahamstad, even together with other culture groups, so that Afrikaans can be heard everywhere.

—The Foundation will make efforts also to promote Afrikaans in the business world. Afrikaans must remain an everyday language in the business world. A positive and constructive attitude toward Afrikaans will be encouraged.

—The Foundation already has started to seek and establish international affiliations for Afrikaans—especially in Dutch-speaking countries. Important breakthroughs already have been made, and the Foundation continues to expand these alliances also to other countries in the world where there is an interest in Afrikaans.

This is happening against the background of the fact that the Dutch and Flemish are also seeking new allies right now in their own struggle for survival in the new world. The Foundation is also trying, however, to benefit from the European connection in another way. It is currently determining how the promotion of language functions in a series of European countries and what can be learned from those in order to make it apply to our own situation in South Africa.

As to the protection of the official status of Afrikaans, the Foundation already has done important work behind the scenes. A special project team of the University of South Africa has been commissioned to do a study and make recommendations on the protection of the official status of Afrikaans as well as the protection of Afrikaans in education during the negotiation processes. Both those reports have been completed and discussions are already being held on those with interested parties.

Angola**Commission Discusses 'Attempt' on Savimbi's Life**

*MB2506201092 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1900 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Text] The Joint Political and Military Commission [CCPM] met at the leadership level today. According to [chief government representative] General Franca Ndalu, the objective was to discuss three or four points. He declined to specify them, however, noting that the meeting will continue tomorrow morning when a spokesman will reveal everything that was discussed.

[Begin recording] [Ndalu] We decided to hold a meeting at the leadership level today, instead of the normal plenary session held every Thursday. We reached an agreement on the issues to be discussed. We were not able to conclude all three or four points under discussion today. We held lengthy discussions. We shall continue this meeting, at the leadership level, tomorrow. It is not a plenary meeting. Immediately after the meeting, a spokesman will reveal what has been discussed and decided upon.

[Unidentified reporter] Gen. Ndalu, the meeting, at the leadership level, which was expected to take place last Tuesday would discuss, among other issues, the extension of state administration. Did the meeting discuss this today?

[Ndalu] No, no. All the same, it is one of the issues on the agenda. The issues on the last meeting at the leadership level, as well as others that have been agreed upon, are the ones that are being discussed between today and tomorrow. [end recording]

Engineer Salupeto Pena [chief representative of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, UNITA, to the CCPM] was more forthcoming. One of the burning issues which will continue to be discussed tomorrow is the government's attempt against Jonas Savimbi's life.

[Begin recording] [Pena] This is one of the fundamental issues that is today being discussed not only here in Angola but also outside the country in different circles. Accordingly, it is one of the concerns that people feel must be clarified. We do not want to plunge the country into another catastrophe. There is no need for that.

[Reporter] Engineer Salupeto Pena, we are referring to today's CCPM meeting?

[Pena] I know. The spokesman has already pointed out that a statement will be issued tomorrow at the end of the meeting. Accordingly, you shall be able to know exactly what happened. We are discussing ways of dealing with this problem, what is true and what is false, and how this plot, if it exists, will affect the peace process. That is how we are dealing with the issue.

[Reporter] Engineer Pena, does UNITA have evidence to sustain this accusation that the government is ...

[Pena, interrupting] Yes, we do, we do, we do. We do have concrete evidence.

[Reporter] When will it be made known?

[Pena] Well, perhaps there could be something tomorrow but [words indistinct]. [end recording]

Official Denies Government Plot Against Savimbi

*LD2606103192 Lisbon RTP Internacional
Television in Portuguese 2000 GMT 24 Jun 92*

[Interview with Aldemiro da Conceicao, government spokesman and deputy information minister, by Miguel Lemos in Luanda on 23 June—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] [Lemos] As deputy information minister and government spokesman, how do you view the existence of a National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] radio station, Vorgan [Voice of the Black Cockerel]? [passage omitted]

[Da Conceicao] [passage omitted] We take the view that the Vorgan radio station is illegal. It is illegal. This matter was discussed in Bicesse and was referred for subsequent resolution by the Joint Political and Military Commission [CCPM]. So far, no solution has been found and the government has been exercising tolerance and good sense.

[Lemos] So the government is going to order its closure? If it manages to get there, that is.

[Da Conceicao] Yes, please note that the station's studios are located in Jamba, although they have now opened an FM transmitter in Luanda in defiance of the authorities. But because this is a matter that goes back to the Bicesse talks, the government has been refraining from any forceful action.

[Lemos] Well, if the government views the radio station at Jamba as illegal, why do they not go there and close it down? Is it fear of the UNITA guerrillas?

[Da Conceicao] It is not a question of fear, but rather of the possibility of conflict breaking out again. As I said, however, since the matter goes back to the Bicesse negotiations, we are seeking to resolve it by peaceful means, by means of dialogue through the CCPM.

However, with regard to a television station which UNITA is said to intend to set up, the government will adopt a vigorous attitude with all the implications that it may entail.

[Lemos] What do you mean by that?

[Da Conceicao] Naturally we shall send in forces to close it down.

[Lemos] But are you not going to deregulate TV broadcasting?

[Da Conceicao] At the moment we do not believe the conditions are right to deregulate television broadcasting, in view of the costs and manpower it would entail.

[Lemos] [passage omitted] Do you believe that there are people interested in driving the Portuguese out of Angola?

[Da Conceicao] This is a situation that I too regard as extremely serious, insofar as the intention is to create panic among certain sections of the population in Angola and, above all, to create the impression that the government is unable to control the situation. In short, basically the intention is to draw political dividends from the practice of crime.

[Lemos] [passage omitted] There was a report in Lisbon recently of a man calling himself Jose Jorge who claimed to have been paid by the government to assassinate Savimbi. I know that the gentleman in question worked for the Angolan security services. Do you deny it?

[Da Conceicao] No, I do not deny it. The man who calls himself Jose Jorge did in fact work for a time for the Angolan Government. Before disclosing his name, I must point out that this person is in effect an intelligence peddler. He was introduced to the Angolan Government through Colonel Vasco Lourenco who at the time warned us about him. He collaborated with us until 1988, at which time, having found that he was no more than a blackmailer, we terminated his services.

Now, possibly in revenge, he turns up claiming that we are involved in a plot for the physical elimination of the UNITA leader. This is not true. Again in this case the intention is also political exploitation in the context of a campaign against the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola [MPLA] to divert attention from the charges being levelled at UNITA of late by Tony da Costa Fernandes and Miguel N'zau Puna.

Moreover, since the election campaign is drawing near, they find it necessary to look for pretexts to denigrate the image of the MPLA both at home and abroad.

I must tell you that the name of the gentleman in question is Jorge Martinho. He lives in Amadora [near Lisbon] and, if I am not mistaken, was once head of the billiards section of the Benfica sports club. And I will tell you more: For making the statements you have mentioned this gentleman has received \$250,000 from UNITA.

[Lemos] You are a member of the Angolan Government and, if I am not mistaken, this information has never been given before. I take it you have confirmed all this.

[Da Conceicao] Absolutely. And I take full responsibility here and now. The report in question was forged by UNITA; it was all a UNITA machination to denigrate the Angolan Government. [passage omitted]

[Lemos] A few days ago a leading member of the MPLA, Paulo Jorge, a former foreign minister, called UNITA a terrorist movement. Is this kind of language acceptable in an election campaign?

[Da Conceicao] I think not. And in fact there have been various appeals for moderate language, for verbal restraint.

[Lemos] So that is not the opinion of the whole MPLA leadership?

[Da Conceicao] No, nor is it the government's opinion of UNITA. We believe that, although it has carried out acts of terrorism and waged a war of subversion highly destructive for the country, UNITA cannot now be called a terrorist movement. It is a political party in partnership with all the Angolan parties in the country's political scene.

[Lemos] Paulo Jorge is the current governor of Benguela Province.

[Da Conceicao] He is the governor of Benguela.

[Lemos] You have just levelled a very strong criticism at him.

[Da Conceicao] I do not mean to criticize him. I have a feeling that Paulo Jorge has been quoted out of context—both textual context and political context. The fact is that some attitudes adopted by UNITA are of such a caliber that they make leading MPLA members lose their heads. I do recognize that.

[Lemos] On the subject of the election campaign, the Angolan state budget has a section headed MPLA. Do you not think this makes it an unfair fight? Does the budget provide for UNITA?

[Da Conceicao] No, of course not.

[Lemos] So the MPLA is funded by the state budget?

[Da Conceicao] As in all single party states, the MPLA, the party in power, the single ruling party, was included in the general state budget. At present I must explain that there has been a kind of printing error as a result of which the MPLA was included in the 1992 budget. This was a printing error. The MPLA is not in the budget nor can it make recourse to state funds.

[Lemos] Do you think people will believe it was a printing error?

[Da Conceicao] All they need to do is check with the Treasury Department.

[Lemos] So there is no budget allocation for the MPLA.

[Da Conceicao] No. The MPLA can no longer be funded by the state. This is now prohibited by law.

[Lemos] So how is the MPLA financed now?

[Da Conceicao] The MPLA is trying to become self-sufficient, trying to manage its own assets. In the future, the political parties will receive financing from the state on an equal footing. Apart from that, the MPLA may receive support from nongovernmental organizations. But the law also forbids the parties from receiving funds from foreign governments or government bodies. [passage omitted]

[Lemos] There is great inequality in the treatment of the MPLA on the one hand and of UNITA on the other.

[Da Conceicao] What inequality? Where does UNITA get the money to finance its present campaign?

[Lemos] Do you know the answer to that?

[Da Conceicao] I can surmise.

[Lemos] Where does it come from?

[Da Conceicao] Shall I tell you?

[Lemos] I wish you would.

[Da Conceicao] We know that UNITA gets its money from diamond, timber, and ivory trafficking. UNITA actually sells gorillas at \$20,000 each. [passage omitted]

[Lemos] If you consider the situation of Jamba, and also of Malange, does it not place the electoral registration process in jeopardy? Does it not condition its prosecution?

[Da Conceicao] Of course it does. The electoral registration process will be conditioned by the reach of the central administration. If at Jamba there is no effective state administration, then there will be no electoral registration.

[Lemos] So the elections will not extend to the whole of Angola and this fact will distort the results.

[Da Conceicao] Of course. Of course. But that is not the government's fault.

[Lemos] We are not here to decide whose fault it is. We are trying to find out whether it can be accomplished or not.

[Da Conceicao] In this case the government is not at fault. The electoral law is quite clear on this when it says that there will be elections only in those parts of the territory under direct and effective state administration.

[Lemos] And if there are regions beyond the reach of the state's administration?

[Da Conceicao] Then there will be no electoral registration there.

[Lemos] So there will be no elections there?

[Da Conceicao] The population of such regions will not participate in the elections.

[Lemos] So what will happen?

[Da Conceicao] Only those who have registered can participate in the elections. [passage omitted]

[Lemos] Do you not think that Angola's national unity is in danger?

[Da Conceicao] To some extent, yes.

[Lemos] Take Cabinda. Why do you not envisage an autonomous status for Cabinda?

[Da Conceicao] The Angolan Government intends to solve the problem of Cabinda before the elections. Steps are being taken in that direction through contacts being established. We believe that only dialogue can resolve the problem of Cabinda.

[Lemos] But you have no plans for a consultation on the issue of political autonomy.

[Da Conceicao] Do you mean a plebiscite?

[Lemos] Yes.

[Da Conceicao] We think not, we think it will not be necessary.

[Lemos] So by the steps you mentioned did you mean negotiations with the Front for the Liberation of the Cabinda Enclave [FLEC]?

[Da Conceicao] Direct negotiations with FLEC and with other forces. The great difficulty the government has been experiencing in the talks with opposition forces in Cabinda has been precisely the fact that there is not just one interlocutor to talk to.

[Lemos] You have a problem with interlocutors, but the fact that the MPLA has 15,000 troops in Cabinda shows that this is not just a question of interlocutors. The people of Cabinda do really want something, do they not?

[Da Conceicao] The MPLA or, rather, the government has at present 15,000 troops in Cabinda because there is a war being fought there.

[Lemos] But 15,000 troops means that the force of the people...

[Da Conceicao, interrupting] No. Apart from anything else, apart from anything else, Cabinda is the object of certain neighboring countries' designs.

[Lemos] Do you think that there are foreign countries behind the demand for Cabinda's autonomy?

[Da Conceicao] Behind the demand? We think so. There are foreign countries which covet that piece of Angolan territory.

[Lemos] Do you think the government forces have a chance to win a war there? I recall a FLEC communique which mentioned 100 government soldiers killed.

[Da Conceicao] That is an exaggeration. The government forces are in Cabinda essentially as a deterrent. FLEC has no military significance. It has at most about 200 armed men. In 1991, for example, FLEC carried out only some 16 military operations. FLEC could never cause 100 dead among the government troops because it has no regular units.

[Lemos] Be that as it may, the 15,000 government troops stationed in Cabinda are excessive if FLEC's strength is as you depict it. Cabinda is one problem. You say that the government will seek to establish contacts with FLEC...

[Da Conceicao, interrupting] Has been establishing contacts with FLEC and with other political groupings in Cabinda.

[Lemos] The problem of Cabinda's autonomy is not the only case of separatism experienced by Angola. I am thinking of Lunda, the so-called land of the diamonds, where the Angolan Social Democratic Party is committed to secession.

[Da Conceicao] I must tell you that it is a movement devoid of significance.

[Lemos] But is it a seed that will germinate?

[Da Conceicao] No, it has found no echo among the population of that part of Angola. [passage omitted]

[Lemos] As the Angolan Government's spokesman, you are certainly aware that President Jose Eduardo dos Santos recently stated that corruption is second only to the war in the list of Angola's great problems. There were legal proceedings relatively recently against Angolan companies, such as Sonangol, and the management of TAAG [Angolan Airlines] has been dismissed. Incidentally, will this dismissal affect cooperation with TAP-Air Portugal?

[Da Conceicao] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos was referring to widespread corruption, because in effect the system of economic management we created in Angola did not generate wealth; on the contrary, it generated poverty. This, plus the war situation, led the people to live largely by their wits.

[Lemos] The black market.

[Da Conceicao] Yes. That is the kind of thing President Jose Eduardo dos Santos was referring to.

[Lemos] Does that mean that only the people are corrupt and those higher up are not?

[Da Conceicao] No, no, no, by no means.

[Lemos] The businessmen and managers, are they not corrupt?

[Da Conceicao] When we say that people got used to living by their wits, this applies to all strata of the population.

[Lemos] But there are no instances of inquiries at government level, for example.

[Da Conceicao] There are such instances. There are even members of the MPLA leadership who have been dismissed.

[Lemos] Name one.

[Da Conceicao] There is an MPLA commander implicated in criminal trial number 105 who was arrested and dismissed, namely (General Ndozi), a prestigious figure from the days of the guerrilla war. So that is not true. The Diamang [mining company] case was dropped for lack of evidence. Corruption is a universal phenomenon, not just an Angolan one. I can think of scandals...

[Lemos, interrupting] In all sorts of countries.

[Da Conceicao] In all sorts of countries, France, the United States, Japan. [passage omitted]

Information Minister Comments on Radio Programs

*MB2506145592 Luanda Radio Nacional Network
in Portuguese 1200 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[Excerpt] Information Minister Rui de Carvalho said today that the issue of the "Angolan Combatant" program and the Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel [Vorgan] is beyond his ministry's competence. He was answering a question posed by a Luanda Radio listener during the "Letters on the Table" program.

[Begin De Carvalho recording] The "Angolan Combatant" program on Luanda radio is a program of the Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola, while Vorgan is a National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] radio station. The UNITA radio's continued transmission is in violation of the Angolan legislation and the Bicesse Accord.

In turn, the "Angolan Combatant" program should no longer be transmitted in the light of the present legislation. In practice, it is not easy, however, [words indistinct] both should disappear simultaneously. This has not happened so far. So, I repeat: the issue is beyond the Information Ministry's competence. [end recording] [passage omitted]

FNLA's Roberto Declares Presidential Candidacy

*MB2606054592 London BBC World Service
in English 1830 GMT 25 Jun 92*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] As politicians in Angola get their acts together for elections later this year, one man who has already declared his candidacy for the presidency is Holden Roberto. He led the northern-based FNLA [Angola National Liberation Front] at independence but lost out in the struggles of 1975. He and his forces were driven out of Angola, and Holden Roberto lived in exile for

many years. The FNLA has registered as a political party and Roberto is now back home in Angola. On the line, Akwe Amosu asked him if he would be running for president on the FNLA ticket.

[Begin recording] [Roberto] Of course. My candidacy will be presented by FNLA.

[Amosu] Now, in the past you have been seen very much as a representative of the people from the north of Angola?

[Roberto] No, no, no. We are throughout Angola. This is a Portuguese propaganda and there is some Western interest.

[Amosu] But is it not true that your main base has come from the Bakongo people?

[Roberto] Any political party has its main base, but it is throughout the country. We have in FNLA leaders who come from all over the country.

[Amosu] Can I ask you how your political position and platform differs from that of Mr. dos Santos and Mr. Savimbi?

[Roberto] I am not extremist. I am a moderate, and furthermore, I was not used by the foreign interests. I do not kill my people here in Angola because some country wanted to have a position in Angola. I was not used by anybody. That is the difference.

[Amosu] Are you hoping to get support from some of the smaller parties as well?

[Roberto] I think so. We are doing that. All the small parties, they are with FNLA.

[Amosu] So, you are trying to build an alliance with the FNLA at the heart of it and with the other parties also joining?

[Roberto] Exactly, because they have the same line. They are against the extremism.

[Amosu] But a number of those parties have already said that they would never do a deal with the FNLA because of its role in the past.

[Roberto] Who said that? I have never heard about it. I never heard. In Angola, here, it is not said at all. That is the propaganda outside.

[Amosu] Have you really got any chance of winning the presidency?

[Roberto] Wait and see. I think this question must be asked to the people, not to me.

[Amosu] But aren't you worried that those two parties—UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] and the MPLA [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola]—are so big and they already have so much ground?

[Roberto] No, nobody knows how ...[pauses] they fought military, but politically, we must see how politically they are going to act. [end recording]

Malawi

President Banda Appoints New Army Commander

MB2506171692 Blantyre Malawi Broadcasting Corporation Network in English 1600 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Excerpt] His excellency the life president, Ngwazi Dr. Kamuzu Banda, in his capacity as commander in chief of the Malawi Army, has appointed Lieutenant General Isaac Yohane as army general and commander of the Malawi Army. Announcing this in Lilongwe today, the Office of the President and Cabinet, OPC, said following Gen. Yohane's appointment, the life president has also appointed Major General Bruce Josiah Manyozo as army lieutenant general and deputy commander of the Malawi Army. The OPC said the two appointments are with effect from the 20th of this month. [passage omitted]

Opposition Movement Calls For Election Boycott

MB2506183892 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Malawi begins two days of general elections tomorrow, but in spite of mounting pressure for a political change from churches, local people and the international community, they will once again be a one-party affair. The exiled Interim Committee for a Democratic Alliance is calling for a mass boycott of the poll. On the line to Lusaka, Rashid Meer asked Frank Mainga of the Democratic Alliance, why they were calling for a stayaway from the polls.

[Begin recording] [Mainga] The elections are undemocratic. These are one-party elections. They are not multiparty elections. We are telling the people that they can only vote in multiparty elections, because in the past, you know, two months or three months, there have been a lot of activities which have shown that the people of Malawi do not want the present government.

[Meer] Now, there certainly has been a lot of activity in Malawi recently. But how does calling for a boycott push your case forward?

[Mainga] The call for the boycott is in line with the people's discontent, which has been showing through riots, through strikes. It is also in line with the church's call for democratic elections or call for a change of government.

[Meer] Now, what kind of response do you think you are going to get to this call for a boycott?

[Mainga] If the trend remains the same, it was shown during the introduction of parliamentary candidates to

the electorate in several areas in Malawi where most people did not turn up. [sentence as heard] In some areas there was not even a single person. In some areas four people turned up; and the maximum, as far as information reaching us, the maximum was 25 people who actually came to see the electorate in one district and one area in Malawi. We feel that if this trend goes on like this, then the people will not go to the polling stations.

[Meer] Malawi is by its constitution a one-party state. Wouldn't it make sense for people, like yourselves, who are clearly politicians to join the Congress Party and fight from within?

[Mainga] We cannot join the Malawi Congress Party and fight out for Malawi Congress Party. What we want is a multiparty system of government where everybody will be free to form his own party and fight elections within the party he has formed. Now, if you are asking us to join the Malawi Congress Party and fight from within, then we are not actually democratizing the country. We want the Article Four in the Constitution to be repealed. Article Four (?imposes) the Malawi Congress Party as the sole national party of Malawi. Immediately the article has been repealed, we will be very happy, actually very delighted to go to Malawi, register our party and vote, compete with Malawi Congress Party in a general election. [end recording]

Zambia

Minister Explains Economic Restructuring Program

MB2506200392 Lusaka Zambia National
Broadcasting Corporation Network in English
1800 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] The government has said the rising cost of living in the country should not be attributed to the removal of subsidies on mealie meal but to too much money in circulation. Deputy Minister of Commerce Mr. Depak Patel admitted in Parliament, however, that the removal of subsidies has a negative impact in vulnerable groups in society although the nation stands to benefit from the economic restructuring program currently being undertaken. Mr. Patel said that some of the economic hardships have been caused because the government wants to remove the distortions caused by the UNIP [United National Independence Party] government. He said the government has already

taken necessary steps to cushion off the impact of restructuring program by allocating 1 billion kwacha to be administered by the Ministry of Community Development and through the social action program.

Mr. Patel said the government has in addition allowed free bargaining between employers and employees. He was answering to a question from Chembe Member of Parliament Mr. Danson Sokontwe who wanted to know what measures the Commerce Ministry is taking to promote vulnerable groups.

Zimbabwe

Split in Democratic Reform Forum Noted

MB2606104692 London BBC World Service
in English 1830 GMT 25 Jun 92

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[Text] Cracks are already appearing in the newly formed Forum for Democratic Reform in Zimbabwe. It was only set up last month ostensibly to act as a pressure group to promote more democracy in the country. It insists that it is not a political party but others say it is and now the forum has been dealt a blow with the resignation of one of its trustees, the Anglican bishop of Harare. From Harare Sarah Stancer reports.

[Stancer] A press release in the daily newspaper, THE HERALD this morning was blunt. The Anglican bishop, Ralph Hatendi, announced that he would no longer be a trustee of the Forum for Democratic Reform. His reason was that the forum was now a political party, calling itself the National Democratic Reform Party. He said because of this he could no longer be involved. The forum's reaction to the statement was an emphatic denial that any such party existed. The loss there of the bishop as a trustee comes at a critical time for the forum.

There have been repeated hints, despite denials that the forum is a political party and just a week ago press reports indicated that the group had been split along racial lines. All these accusations and rumors are putting the forum on the defensive, making their [word indistinct] existence vulnerable.

At a press conference last night, the forum's patron, former Chief Justice Dr. Enock Dumbutshena, was trying to patch up that vulnerability. He declared that as far as he was aware, there was no split along racial lines and reiterated that the forum was not a political party and would not become so. It would only act as a catalyst by new party [words indistinct] separate from the forum.

Burkina Faso

Prime Minister Outlines Objectives, Goals

AE2506140092 Ouagadougou Radiodiffusion
Nationale du Burkina Radio in French 1923 GMT
22 Jun 92

[News conference by Prime Minister Youssouf Ouedraogo with local and international reporters in Ouagadougou on 22 June—recorded]

[Text] [Ouedraogo] Thank you for turning up in large numbers at this first news conference. First, I want to point out that the government and I are ready to provide you with the best conditions. My doors will always be open to you to explain economic, political, and social problems, as well as issues that affect the life of the nation. I believe the press is a necessary and essential element in a democratic process. Your role is to inform the people. I will ensure that you carry out this mission as extensively as possible.

Now, I am at your disposal for questions and once again, I would like to state the government's readiness toward the press at all times. I thank you.

[Sambou] I am Sansan Dongo Sambou of the national television service. Mr. Prime Minister, before proceeding any further into the news conference, it would, perhaps, be interesting to know the difficulties involved in forming this Cabinet, in a country where the political landscape is extremely dense and even inextricable. Will you tell us if you encountered any particular difficulties in creating your Cabinet? This is an introductory question to the news conference.

[Ouedraogo] Well, people always have difficulties. When one embarks upon a political, technical, or social task, there are always difficulties. First of all, it is human for people to make mistakes, but given that right from the beginning, our target was to search for the best performance; it was an easy task. (Talking about) facing difficulties, I can tell you I did not face any difficulties which I considered insurmountable.

[Sambou] Thank you for this introduction. In the formation of cabinets, we have noticed in the past that there has always been a ministry in charge of Burkinabe nationals abroad. When this Cabinet was announced, we noticed that this ministry no longer existed. Did you make a mistake by saying that in reality, it was not needed in the past? Why did the prime minister not consider this when he formed his cabinet?

[Ouedraogo] I thank you for this very pertinent question. When we discussed the establishment of various ministerial departments, we took our past experience into consideration. We found that we only needed one minister at the head of this ministry and that a additional minister delegate was not needed. This was so because, in any case, the minister in charge of external relations [words indistinct] indeed meets with Burkinabe

nationals abroad. But we thought that, given the importance that the president of the Republic attaches to the need to bring together all Burkinabe nationals, whether they reside in Burkina Faso or not, it is important that we set up a body in the near future within this ministry to take charge of issues concerning Burkinabe nationals abroad. This way we can take care of their social demands, listen to their problems, and take steps to provide them with the best conditions for their return home and integration, as well as keep them in touch with the country. So, in the very near future, we will set up this body, which might be called the higher council for the burkinabe nationals abroad, or some other name, but the main thing is that there will be an institution within the Ministry of External Relations that will be in charge of coordinating these activities.

[Ilboudo] I am Jean-Baptiste Ilboudo of the Ouagadougou Radiodiffusion Nationale du Burkina Radio. Mr. Prime Minister, we have noticed that in your Cabinet there is no Security Department which, in the past, was attached to the Ministry of Defense. How do you explain this situation? Was it just an oversight?

[Ouedraogo] It was not an oversight. A country's security cannot be forgotten. Indeed, I think you did well to have asked this question. At the time a profile of the Ministry of Interior was being drawn up, what mattered was the content. We called it the Ministry of Territorial Administration. You will notice that almost everywhere it is called Ministry of Interior. When we say Ministry of Interior we do not add and security. We called it the Ministry of Territorial Administration, which means public security will of course be brought under this ministry, because territorial administration also implies managing security matters.

[Sawadogo] I am Jean-Marie Sawadogo of SIDWAYA newspaper. Still concerning the government's formation, we noticed that the erstwhile Ministry of Information was split. I think we have the Ministry of Culture, and there is now a Ministry of Communications. Why did you opt for communications rather than information? My second question is: Should we also expect the formation of a higher council for information in the immediate future?

[Ouedraogo] Look here. Concerning your second question, I think in the information code there is adequate provision for institutions that would ensure the best possible functioning of our country's information system. On the first question, we opted for the term communications because we sought to promote an accord between actions and functions in this institution. Specifically, the information and telecommunications aspect have actions that go together. But in the past, we noticed that there were inconsistencies and cases where things did not work. So we sought to improve cohesion and ensure a more harmonious blend of these two activities which are quite overlapping. You have, for instance, the pan-African networks live program retransmission project, which will be implemented in a few

months' time. We easily spent over five years trying to integrate these two activities—that is the telecommunications network and that of television. It is most likely that by blending these entities we are going to create an accord of coherence that (?will rather benefit us highly). This explains why we called it Ministry of Communications; we wanted it to manage both the information and telecommunications networks.

[Unidentified reporter] From a political standpoint, we will never be tired of talking about the formation of your government. Before the news surfaced, the general feeling was that you were going to consider all of the political entities which have entered the parliament. I thought that was going to be the most important denominator. But, when the Cabinet list was published we noticed the inclusion of political organizations that are not represented at all in your government. Therefore, my first question is: Did you encounter difficulties... [pauses] We were led to believe that you overcame some difficulties. Now this leads me to say that there had definitely been difficulties. Otherwise, why have all the parties not been represented in your cabinet?

[Ouedraogo] Do you really believe that the Cabinet's membership or government's composition is the only aspect of democracy by consensus? I do not think so. Running the state's business should be seen from a general perspective. We have the executive, the legislature, and other state institutions. We should not confine participation in the democracy by consensus we are seeking to membership in the cabinet alone. So, I think that here we should not create a problem that does not exist.

[Nabi] I am Prosper Sekou Nabi of L'OBSERVATEUR newspaper. We notice from the cabinet list that a new government department that will monitor the private educational institutions has been established. What is your policy in this area? Also, could you go back to the question asked by my colleague Sansan Dongo Sambou? The party which is absent from the government is the African Independence Party [PAI], which, after all is said and done, has been a long-standing ally of the forces of progress. We saw it within the Democratic and Popular Rally [RDP]. We also saw it during the National Reconciliation Forum. Does its absence mean a break in the alliance or simply an friendly divorce?

[Ouedraogo] It is neither of the two. Listen, I repeat, the formation of a government must not be considered as the only possible means of participating in a country's democratic constitutional life. When we undertook the task of setting up this government, of course, we had a series of discussions with personalities of various political parties. But in fact the important thing is—you mentioned PAI—we did not get the feeling that although PAI was not part of the government; it had decided on, as you termed it, a friendly divorce or the breakup of alliance. Neither of us had that feeling. It was agreed by mutual consent that participating in the government alone was not the only means of participating in the country's democratic constitutional life, and that

achieving democracy by consensus was more important to Burkina Faso's president.

Obviously, in respect to private educational institutions—you asked what the policy was—what should be pointed out first is that during these past few years we have experienced remarkable growth within the private education system which, alongside the public schools, has rendered great services. It has helped to increase the number of teachers and to raise the level of teaching. This means that there is a crucial demand and it also means that there is the need to organize the profession more efficiently. We are in a phase of economic reform. Well, we considered that to better supervise these private educational institutions and to offer them the best chances of having officials who would listen to them all the time, it was expedient to set up a department at the Education Ministry in charge of private education. And, I believe that we would not like it to be otherwise as far as this sector is concerned. We need to take charge of this sector fully.

[Ilboudo] I am Jean-Baptiste Ilboudo of Ouagadougou Radiodiffusion Nationale du Burkina Radio. Mr. Prime Minister, we are moving from an exceptional form of rule to a state of democratic rule. What lessons can you draw from this long democratization process, that is, from the launching of this democratization up to the time of the actual establishment of the various institutions?

[Ouedraogo] First, I know that [words indistinct]; I know that this demands from leaders the permanent development of [words indistinct] in the medium and long term for the operation of these institutions, for the development of dialogue and political discussions; for the absolute necessity to intensify the capacity for creation. Evidently, as you know, Burkina Faso was one of the rare countries to have reached an advanced stage in this democratic process. I can say, even before the general change that took place on the continent. This confirms the foresight of the head of state who, as early as October 1987, initiated the need to bring about a democratization process through dialogue, through the organization of free and democratic elections. From that time up till now, I see that this process has been advancing, that the transitional process has been completed and that we have fully entered into the democratic life of the Fourth Republic.

[Nanga] I am Christophe Nanga of BURKINA FASO NEWS AGENCY [AIB]. The government you have just formed comprises parties from both the progressive forces and those of Coordination of Democratic Forces. Do you not believe that the inclusion of main opposition parties in the government constitutes a danger for multiparty democracy in Burkina Faso?

[Ouedraogo] The only focal point in this government, as I have said, is the directive that the president gave for the formation of a democracy by consensus with its corollary

that is his five-year program—a broad-based program for democracy and development—for which he was democratically elected on 1 December, should be implemented. Any politician or otherwise, or any political party which agrees with this program and its leaders, can normally participate in the running of these institutions. This does not eliminate any difference of opinion; in any democracy, there should be some difference of opinion, since democracy is essentially based on free discussion and the acceptance of differences in opinion, the need to accept different opinions. At the People's Assembly, there is free expression of opinion during the debate on bills. Within the government, discussions are carried out freely. Why should there be no differences of opinion in a democracy?

[Ilboudo] Mr. Prime Minister, here is one last political question that will enable us to move on to the economic section of this news conference. As we noticed in the press this morning, public opinion is critical with the number of Cabinet ministers. It finds that 29 ministers is a lot and people find it difficult to understand the appointment of state ministers without portfolios. Was the creation of state ministries the price for achieving political consensus?

[Ouedraogo] No. Listen, we have just emerged from the state of emergency. We are now entering a democratic society where the multiparty system exists. During this stage, it is obvious that we need contributions for reflection, leadership, and implementation of our policy guidelines. Earlier, I said that the main mission of ministers without portfolio, whether the two state ministers or the minister in charge of special duties at the Presidency of Burkina Faso, is to help in the implementation of the country's major political, economic, and social policies. That is all. A collective effort has been made to set up the best government team capable of inducing and helping in the implementation of President Blaise Compaore's five-year program.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, we have just ended the first part of this news conference. We are now moving on to economic and social issues.

[Kambou] I am Francois Zongo Kambou of the national television service. Mr. Prime Minister, some people believe that some of the major difficulties you will be faced with will be economic demands from trade unions. We also know that ruling entails planning. Do you have any program planned to that effect?

[Ouedraogo] First, our program will be to initiate frank and sincere dialogue. Social demands from workers will be closely examined. That is to say that we will sit down together and talk about workers' major problems, but we will also bring up the country's economic and financial realities. We will resolve workers' problems by taking into account the country's concrete realities and its objective potential. That is to say that in the coming days and weeks, we will initiate dialogue which has not been interrupted.

[Nasome] I am Hyere Nasome of LE PAYS newspaper. From press reports this morning and listening to your preliminary statement, we have the impression that everything is fine in Burkina Faso and that people can rest on their laurels. This concretely means....[pauses] You said that the economy was healthy and economic growth was estimated at 5 percent, according to [words indistinct]. My question is: Since the economy is expanding, why then do we need a structural adjustment program?

[Ouedraogo] I never said that everything was fine, very fine, and that there was nothing left to be done. First, economics is the art of improvement. I said and I repeat that the country's economic and financial performance indicators are certainly the best or rather among the best in the subregion. I did not say that; the data shows it. Now, I did not say that there were no difficulties. We have difficulties, because in the medium and long term, we see that there is the need to restructure and initiate reforms. We have difficulties concerning our public finances for instance. We must be able to pay our public debt; otherwise, lenders will not grant us loans. We must ensure the normal operation of our banking institutions which need adjustments due to poor management and so on.

There is no (?need to repeat) that it was a sufficiently harsh international context which compelled us to sign an economic reforms accord with the Bretton Wood institutions—the World Bank and the IMF. You will notice outright that Burkina Faso was the last country in the subregion to embark on a structural adjustment program.

But the objective of these reforms is to ensure that what we recognize today as a remarkable achievement is not lost in the years ahead. The efforts we have made risk being jeopardized because there is a sufficiently severe world economic crisis and we must ensure that we do not lose these efforts which we have already initiated. This explains why we signed the structural adjustment program agreement.

But this program also presupposes that we make some sacrifices. This is a requirement of adjustment. But the need for adjustment does not mean that we should make no efforts in the social field. Whenever there are problems, we will take a look at them and try to find solutions according to the resources available.

[Sawadogo] I am Jean-Marie Sawadogo of SIDWAYA newspaper. In appointing you, the head of state pointed out in an interview that his action was based first on your competence, and he went on to stress that throughout this five-year period, he would like to implement that program. So, what are the priority areas you have identified and, also, what are the strategies you will adopt in implementing this five-year program?

[Ouedraogo] Burkina Faso is essentially an agricultural country. We need to promote the development of the rural area. I believe that one of the lines of force in

economic and political development will be to look at the contribution of the rural area. A better linkage of the agricultural sector involving the integration of the water sector so as to enable higher productivity and a more efficient marketing of produce will definitely be one of the lines of force. [Words indistinct] that the sector absorbs primary sector products like the industrial sector which will create opportunities and make it possible to process and add value to these primary commodities, will not be [word indistinct]. The industrial, mining, and energy sectors will equally receive priority attention. The drive against unemployment through the revamping of the economy by the establishment of small- and medium-scale enterprises in all sectors of activity, whether industrial or agricultural, is one of the necessary prerequisites of job creation. These sectors will be accorded priority attention because they hold the potential for creating new jobs and generating income directly or indirectly.

[Sambou] Mr. Prime Minister, answering my colleague's question a short while ago, you made the point that Burkina Faso is essentially an agricultural country. That is a fact. But we know at the moment that there are no rains at all, which means if ever Burkina were to go through a, quote, blank year, unquote,—in other words a year without rain—it would be faced with extremely serious food problems. What does this mean to you?

[Ouedraogo] Yes, look here. That is a matter of great concern, of very great concern. But it seems it is not yet too late, hopefully. But if I may make an appeal here I would like to urge all religious groups, Muslims, Christians, traditionalists, and all who normally say prayers, to call the rains while there is still time to do so, and they should pray that we receive evenly distributed rainfall. It is the only variable which cannot be planned. We call on our traditional heads to come to our aid in this area. It seems it is not yet late. It seems the signals sent out by those who are skilled in such weather observation show that it is not yet too late. I have not lost hope yet but prevention is better than cure.

[Nanga] In the meantime, Mr. Prime Minister, there is a shortage of water in Ouagadougou. And as can be noticed, there is no rain. What are you going to do to solve this priority problem?

[Ouedraogo] This is the same question that was asked a while ago. As I said, if in the next few days, we do have rainfall, measures will be taken to ensure that Ouagadougou is supplied with water, in particular from the dam. Also, you can see that in reality, it is only in and around Ouagadougou that so far there has been no rain. Throughout the country generally, except in the Ouagadougou region, there has been a relatively good level of rainfall. But, it is essential that Ouagadougou records adequate rainfall, for obvious reasons such as industry and so on. In forthcoming days, if it still does not rain, then we will become concerned.

[Unidentified reporter] What is your relationship with the mass media? What are you going to do?

[Ouedraogo] Well, when I came into this hall, I started by indicating that the government is totally prepared to work with the press in order to find solutions to its problems. By working together everyday, we can find ways of to solve our problems. In forthcoming days when we put into place our action program, which the president of the Republic has asked us to formulate, we shall spell out in detail what is going to be done for the communication sector generally speaking. You must admit that a lot of effort has been made in this direction in recent years and efforts will be further continued along this line.

[Ilboudo] Mr. Prime Minister, during an earlier interview, it was said that you are an easy-going man, a man of humane character, generally speaking. We know that presently, however, the structural adjustment program represents for certain people, rightly or wrongly, a bitter pill. As a humane person, as you are referred to, how do you plan to minimize the ruthless effects of this structural adjustment program.

[Ouedraogo] I would first like to say, concerning what you termed the ruthless effects of the structural adjustment program, that we have benefited from the experience of countries that preceded us in implementing structural adjustment programs, because the initial programs did not take into account the resulting social effects and this generated a number of difficulties. We benefited from all these experiences. I am not saying that we do not face any problems but that we have been able to limit, in drafting and discussing the structural adjustment program, a certain number of (?difficulties) experienced by others. This is why the special chapter on the structural adjustment program was included in the first draft of the program itself. In other countries, this was not the case. There only after its approval were social programs to correct ruthless effects put in place. What I mean is that if we succeed in reviving the general economic sector which helps create jobs, this means we shall be creating new jobs. When new jobs are created, this will generate direct or indirect revenues and thus, we shall be resolving social problems. Concerning the indirect effects resulting from certain difficulties we might encounter because of the sacrifices we will have to make, I think there are times when if one wants to attain certain objectives, one has to tighten his belt. I think this is a necessity. Now, we are doing this by taking into account the need to ensure a acceptable living conditions for Burkinabe workers. Not long ago, the family allowance was raised [words indistinct] within five years by any government. So, I think we need to analyze realistically the social effects of the structural adjustment program, with the aim of solving them, based of what we can do, what we can do concretely.

[Massiri] I am Dozaria Massiri of LE PAYS newspaper. I would like to put my question to you as an economist

and not as a politician. Do you think that the structural adjustment program can be a solution to our countries' economic problems?

[Ouedraogo] Well, I will answer immediately, yes. It is a solution. A solution is a means that helps solve problems.

[Nassiri] But will the problems be solved?

[Ouedraogo] Yes, they can be solved. Solving a problem is a method one adopts when one notes that a country is facing public finance problems, that it is, for example, so indebted that it cannot implement new projects. Why this state of indebtedness? Because it may have contracted loans, and that were the case then it would have to reimburse them and yet being in a relatively difficult situation of public indebtedness, it can no longer reimburse. But since it can no longer reimburse the loans, financiers will no longer grant it loans. This means that that country is blocking its investment process. One of the possibilities for it to gain new resources is to have its economy generally reviewed and this is what is called readjustment. In any case, since you put the question to me as an economist, I would say that structural adjustment is a permanent condition in economics terms, as we know that reforms constitute adjustment. When one decides to promulgate an act defining, for example, the customs duty to be paid on a product, that is a form of adjustment. Any far-reaching reform in any economy constitutes structural adjustment.

Well, if this structural adjustment helps solve a package of difficulties at a given period, it is better to take a general look at the situation to avoid finding solutions for one sector, while those solutions were meant for problems in other sectors. Also, at a given period, in view of the large-scale difficulties in the world economic system—because it is not something typical of Burkina Faso alone—the structural adjustment program appears today as one of the instruments for international cooperation.

It is not typical of Burkina Faso alone. When a country has not embraced a structural adjustment program, there are even financing possibilities, sometimes free of charge, that it can no longer benefit from, because it cannot implement a package of conditions which the international community, at a given time, has come to regard as compulsory.

Yet, this must be done by internationalizing the discussion process, by ensuring that these programs are not drawn up by people coming from outside, but by the Burkinabe people themselves, and that was the case. It was done in such a manner to ensure a balance between this program and our proper initiative of economic policy which is already contained in the five-year plan. And this was what we also did.

I think we have achieved a lot, and I think that we must simply accept to see what the structural adjustment program can allow us to achieve—that is to organize the economy in the years ahead. We just have to see the difficulties on a

short-term basis and try to find solutions to problems that can come up on medium and long-term bases.

[Sambou] Mr. Prime Minister, when I asked you about the rainfall problem currently facing Burkina Faso, I had in mind what is referred to as international aid. Experience has shown that when an African country is hard-hit by any kind of disaster, it calls on the international community for a solution. Now, if you want to call on the international community, do you also have a philosophy on which your international policy is based? In other words, can Mr. Prime Minister tell us about the philosophy on which his international policy is based?

[Ouedraogo] Concerning economic cooperation and development, Burkina Faso is a sovereign country which respects the sovereignty of other countries. Its actions are based on its interests, that is the Burkinabe people's interests. In the area of international cooperation for development, as long as Burkina Faso's interests are not sacrificed, well, Burkina Faso is [words indistinct]. This policy is essentially based on the strong defense of the interests of the Burkinabe people.

[Sawadogo] We know that there are many regional conflicts in our area and in Africa. How do you feel about that and what can Burkina Faso do to ease this situation?

[Ouedraogo] Burkina Faso has always contributed to the resolution of problems whenever possible to ensure that peace remains a permanent feature in our subregion for the achievement of economic and social development. This means that the government will, at anytime, be ready to examine with neighboring countries, in respect of their sovereignty, issues relating to the maintenance and fostering of peace.

[Sawadogo] Mr. Prime Minister, when Burkina Faso had an exceptional form of rule, it nevertheless maintained relations with foreign countries, that is with the outside world. Will the Fourth Republic maintain the same external policy adopted when Burkina Faso had an exceptional form of rule?

[Ouedraogo] Relations with which countries?

[Sawadogo] Well, I do not have any specific country in mind.

[Ouedraogo] Listen, I underlined a principle. I said that first, the defense and promotion of the interests of the Burkinabe people are the basis of our cooperation policy [words indistinct]. As long as these interests are safeguarded and promoted, Burkina Faso will continue to develop its cooperation with other countries in the subregion and the rest of the world.

[Dabire] I am Pierre Dabire, of SIDWAYA newspaper. My question is a follow-up to that of the previous fellow reporter. Burkina Faso was said to be involved in the Liberian conflict, which is still not completely resolved. What will be the new prime minister's policy? Will it be

a policy of disengagement or rather a policy of confrontation with total support for Mr. Charles Taylor?

[Ouedraogo] First, there has been no commitment. We have been participating, in cooperation with other countries and in line with the body set up by the heads of state of the Economic Community of West African States [ECOWAS]—the Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group [ECOMOG]—in examining the real problems Liberia is confronted with, to ensure that peace returns to Liberia and for the Liberian people. Burkina Faso will continue to take part in this effort within the framework of ECOMOG. By the way, a meeting of foreign ministers of ECOMOG member countries is now taking place in Dakar and our country is attending it. We have agreed to contribute to the solution of problems facing Liberia.

[Dabire] We know that the OAU summit will be held in Dakar at the end of the month. Regional conflicts, among other things, will be discussed. So, Mr. Prime Minister, do you really believe that the summit will find draft solutions to the various problems Africa is confronted with?

[Ouedraogo] I believe that every time our heads of state have met, they have been sincere in trying to solve issues confronting Africa. This means that the search for peace is not a spontaneous act, it forms part of a process. This also means that we should never despair. Whenever the heads of state hold a summit meeting they examine very complex issues linked to international and inter-African geopolitics, and the solutions and directives they give to their governments are necessary for continuing efforts toward the search and consolidation of peace. If there are hotbeds of tension, the heads of state give directives and I believe that for a long time, we have seen that notable efforts have been made as far as the OAU is concerned. We will continue on that path and we shall contribute each time to the solution of problems within the framework of the continental organization.

[Sambou] Mr. Prime Minister, there is a problem that has persisted for so long that it has now become anachronistic. It is the South African issue. What is the prime minister's stand on current developments in South Africa?

[Ouedraogo] You may have noticed, as I have, that there has been significant progress in South Africa, progress toward a multiracial and democratic society. This is encouraging but we are following the situation carefully and we are in permanent contact with the African National Congress. It is important to know that South Africa will one day become a multiracial and fully democratic society where democracy and freedom of expression for both blacks and whites will exist. It is then, I believe, that South Africa will become a full member of the world community, notably [words indistinct].

[Sambou] My question this time is on the environment. The Rio summit has just ended. If the prime minister had attended that summit on behalf of the president of Burkina Faso, what would have been his position? What

proposals would you have made concerning global environmental problems the world is currently facing?

[Ouedraogo] We know, on the basis of policy guidelines laid out by the head of state, that he made various proposals. In cooperation with the heads of state of other countries of the world, he agreed on the need to closely examine environmental problems and to solve the current constraints on the ozone layer, the problem of global warming, and the need to place environmental problems and the quality of life on the same footing as the current concerns of the government. These include the contribution of financial backers to additional efforts that must be made to protect and safeguard the environment. It should become one of the most essential tasks for the revival of the development process and [words indistinct].

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, what is your last word to the press?

[Ouedraogo] The role of the press is to train and contribute to the consolidation of the democratic process. As I said earlier, the press is one of the prerequisites, one of the major factors in a democratic process, particularly in Burkina Faso. I have underlined the government's readiness to meet the press and I believe that the press as a whole has reached the point where it can really inform the whole Burkinabe people and enable them to develop their level of understanding of problems and issues concerning their daily lives. I believe, concerning the press, that this is the most important thing. I thank you for your availability and dynamism and I hope this cooperation will be fruitful. I encourage it to continue.

Guinea

Sierra Leone's Strasser Visits, Meets Conte

AB2606110092 Conakry Radiodiffusion Nationale
de la Republique de Guinee in French 1945 GMT
25 Jun 92

[Text] President Lansana Conte met with his Sierra Leonean counterpart, Valentine Strasser, at Forecariah this morning. During this first meeting, the two statesmen discussed important issues concerning their two countries. General Lansana Conte assured Captain Valentine Strasser that Guinea would not undertake any action that could be harmful or disturbing to Sierra Leone's interests. Amadou Diallo has the details.

[Diallo] It was in a helicopter that the man who ousted General Joseph Momoh arrived at Forecariah, a border prefecture between Guinea and Sierra Leone. Dressed in military attire, Capt. Valentine Strasser, who was on his third visit outside Freetown after visits to Ghana and Nigeria, met the Guinean head of state for the first time. He explained to him the reasons that led to the 29 April coup d'etat against President General Saidou Momoh. According to Capt. Strasser, President Momoh's regime

was characterized by corruption, coupled with bad administration, resulting in the collapse of the economy.

The young 27-year-old Sierra Leonean president, who has already become very popular (according to diplomatic sources), remarked that he would not remain in power longer than necessary. In the immediate future, the strong man of Sierra Leone intends to put an end to the rebellion in the south of his country. He also intends to tackle the issue of the repatriation of Sierra Leonean refugees as well the resettlement of displaced persons.

Capt. Valentine Strasser, who is leading an important delegation of his government and the National Provisional Ruling Council, held a closed-door meeting with the Guinean head of state who gave him the assurance that Guinea would not engage in any action that might harm the interests of Sierra Leone.

Following this one-hour discussion, a communique was issued. In the communique, the two heads of state expressed satisfaction with their discussions which they described as fruitful. They also expressed their commitment to pursue regular consultations. After the discussions, Valentine Strasser made a statement to the press.

[Begin recording] [Strasser in English fading into French translation] Our discussions were held within a very frank, open, and friendly atmosphere. We expressed our concerns and his excellency the president gave very strong and solid assurances to me and my government and people of Sierra Leone that Guinea would not do anything that would jeopardize the good and friendly relationship existing between the peoples of Sierra Leone and Guinea.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr. President, you told Guinean President Gen. Lansana Conte that you would not stay in power longer than necessary. How long do you think your regime will last?

[Strasser] Well, as of now, I cannot tell you with certainty how long we are going to remain in power but anyhow, the government has taken concrete and positive measures to return the country to constitutional rule. In the meantime, we have created political institutions and we are also drawing up modalities for ushering the country into a period of transition to a constitutional regime.

I believe that the Guinean and Sierra Leonean peoples have very very strong historical and cultural ties. I believe that it is in the interest of the two peoples to work together in order to strengthen the already existing ties between the two peoples and governments and I also believe that it is in the interest of us all to further strengthen this cooperation so that it may become stronger and more productive in order to promote friendly, cooperative, and brotherly relations between

our two countries. I assure you that the two countries and governments will do everything possible to restore peace in the subregion. [end recording]

Ivory Coast

Houphouet-Boigny Begins Talks With Groups

AB2606100092 Abidjan Radio Cote d'Ivoire
Chaine Nationale-Une Network in French 1900 GMT
25 Jun 92

[Report by Ben Raki on the beginning of discussions between Ivorian President Felix Houphouet-Boigny and the country's socioeconomic groups in Abidjan on 25 June]

[Text] I have just returned from the Presidential Palace, the head of state's private residence in Cocody district, where the head of state today began the series of discussions he promised to hold with the country's various socioeconomic groups. Since 1830 GMT, he has been holding discussions with Army generals and senior officers in the presence of Prime Minister Alassane Dramane Ouattara and the ministers of defense, internal security, interior and communication. These discussions will continue tomorrow with a delegation from the National Assembly.

Liberia

ECOMOG Warns Against Alleged Demonstration

AB2606083592 Monrovia Radio ELBC in English
0900 GMT 25 Jun 92

[Text] The West African peacekeeping force has warned that it will take very strong action against anybody who tries to disrupt the normal pattern of activities and life in Monrovia.

The warning by ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Monitoring Group] follows reports of planned demonstration in Monrovia this Saturday [27 June] by the leader of the Independent National Patriotic Front [INPFL], Brigadier General Prince Johnson. Prince Johnson, according to ECOMOG, is also demanding the closure of business centers and shops on the same day. But the peacekeeping force says as a group responsible for security, it has contacted the Ministry of Justice and the National Police and both organizations say they are not aware of any intent by the INPFL leader or any other person to hold a rally or demonstration on Saturday.

ECOMOG is therefore advising all Liberians and foreign residents in Monrovia and its environs to go about their normal duties on Saturday or any other day.

Nigeria

Minister Says Talks Under Way for Activists

*AB2506134592 Lagos Radio Nigeria Network
in English 2100 GMT 24 Jun 92*

[Text] The Federal Government says it is not deliberately disobeying court orders in respect of five persons being prosecuted for treason. The attorney general of the federation and minister of justice, Mr. Clement Akpambgo, made the declaration yesterday at a news briefing in Lagos. He explained that there were certain procedures

which should be followed before persons held under the amended State Security Detention of Persons Decree 2, 1984 could be released.

Mr. Akpambgo said government required time under the procedure to comply with the court orders. The minister also stated that the orders for the production of the accused persons was brought to his attention only on Tuesday [23 June]. Mr. Akpambgo said he had intensified discussions with the appropriate authorities for the release of the detainees. The accused persons include Chief Gani Fawehinmi, Mr. Femi Falana, and Dr. Beko Ransome-Kuti.

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